AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph 0019 as follows:

[0019] The Inventors have isolated and purified a new sequence of a low molecular weight human polypeptide. Said mammal, preferably human, protein or polypeptide (hereafter identified as peroxiredoxin 5, PRDX5, formerly also known as B18 protein) has been sequenced and its corresponding genomic DNA (SEQ ID NO: ~~8~~10) and cDNA (SEQ ID NO: 1) have been identified. Similarly, the corresponding nucleotide and amino acid sequence from a rat (SEQ ID NOs: 3 and 4) and from a mouse (SEQ ID NOs: 5 and 6) have been obtained.

Please amend paragraph 0051 as follows:

[0051] Accordingly, the present invention relates also to a pharmaceutical composition in orally administrable dosage form, comprising:

(a) the amino acid sequence having more than 70% homology with the sequence SEQ ID NO ~~1~~2 or 21, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or derivative thereof, and

(b) possibly a pharmaceutically acceptable reductant and/or electron donor.

Please amend paragraph 0054 as follows:

[0054] Accordingly, the present invention relates also to a method of treating neurotoxic injury in a patient suffering of said injury by administering to said patient a composition comprising the amino acid sequence having more than 70% homology with the sequence SEQ ID NOs: ~~1~~2 or 21, its pharmaceutically acceptable salts or derivatives and pharmaceutically acceptable esters, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein said compound is present in said composition in an amount effective to treat said neurotoxic injury.

Please amend paragraph 0056 as follows:

[0056] The present invention relates also to a method of decreasing the effect of excitotoxic injury in a patient, having said injury, comprising administrating to said patient a composition comprising the amino acid sequence having more than 70% homology with the sequence SEQ ID NOs: ~~1~~2 or 21, its pharmaceutically acceptable salts or derivatives and pharmaceutically acceptable esters, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein said

compound is present in said composition in an amount effective to treat said excitotoxic injury in said patient.

Please amend paragraph 0101 as follows:

[0101] As represented in the enclosed Figure 4, the Inventors have identified upon the genomic DNA (SEQ ID NO: 10) 5 exons and 5 introns. By RT-PCR (using primers 5'-gggtatgggactagctggcg-3' (SEQ ID NO: 15) and 5'-ctggccaacattccaattgcag-3' (SEQ ID NO: 16)) and according to the genomic sequence, 4 different cDNAs corresponding to the transcription of the said genomic DNA have been identified in human lung and in human brain. A first cDNA of 736 bp corresponds to the cDNA encoding the complete amino acid sequence of the PRDX5 protein according to the invention. However, 3 other cDNAs of 601 (SEQ ID NO: 8), 604 (SEQ ID NO: 9) and 469 (SEQ ID NO: 7) bp were also identified, and comprise specific splicings of one or more exons.